

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY- USA PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR FIXATION OF THE SPINE THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE; the specification of which was filed on **October 24, 2003** as Application Serial No. **10/693,663**.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Irvine, California 92614, Telephone (949) 760-0404, **Customer No. 20,995**.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

-----  
Full name of sole inventor: **Gene DiPoto**

Inventor's signature Gene DiPoto

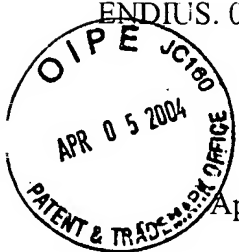
Date 2/9/04

Residence: **23 Crockett Road, Upton, MA 01568**

Citizenship: **U.S.**

Post Office Address: **same as above**

-----  
Send Correspondence To:  
**Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP**  
**Customer No. 20,995**



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gene DiPoto )  
App. No. : 10/693,663 )  
Filed : October 24, 2003 )  
For : METHODS AND APPARATUSES )  
FOR FIXATION OF THE SPINE )  
THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE )  
Examiner : Unknown )

---

ESTABLISHMENT OF RIGHT OF ASSIGNEE TO TAKE ACTION  
AND  
REVOCATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee below (the "Assignee"). A true copy of the original Assignment of the above-captioned application from the inventor(s) to the Assignee is attached hereto. This Assignment represents the entire chain of title of this invention from the Inventor(s) to the Assignee.

I declare that all statements made herein are true, and that all statements made upon information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, or any patent issuing thereon.

The undersigned hereby revokes any previous powers of attorney in the subject application, and hereby appoints the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, Fourteenth Floor, Irvine, California 92614, Telephone (949) 760-0404, **Customer**

App. No. : 10/693,663  
Filed : October 24, 2003

No. 20,995, as its attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. This appointment is to be to the exclusion of the inventor(s) and his attorney(s) in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 3.71.

Please use **Customer No. 20,995** for all communications.

ENDIUS INCORPORATED

Dated: 2/9/04

By: Gene DiPoto  
Gene DiPoto

Title: Vice President, Engineering

Address: 23 West Bacon Street  
Plainville, MA 02762

H:\DOCS\AMD\AMD-5206.DOC  
011904

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, Gene DiPoto, a U.S. citizen, residing at 23 Crockett Road, Upton, MA 01568, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR STABIIZING THE SPINE THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE for which I have filed an application for Letters Patent in the United States, Application No. 10/693,663 filed on October 24, 2003;

AND WHEREAS, Endius, Incorporated (hereinafter "ASSIGNEE"), a Delaware Corporation, with its principal place of business at 23 West Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762, desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said improvements and the said Application:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to me in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I, the said inventor, do hereby acknowledge that I have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest throughout the world in, to and under the said improvements, and the said application and all provisional applications relating thereto, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all rights of priority under International Conventions and applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States and all extensions, renewals and reissues thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said improvements to the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND I HEREBY covenant and agree that I will communicate to the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said improvements, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said ASSIGNEE, his successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said improvements in all countries.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and seal this 9 day of February, 2004



Gene DiPoto

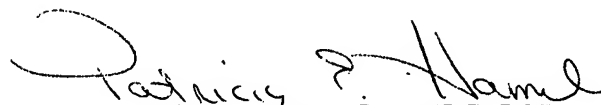
STATE OF Massachusetts  
COUNTY OF Norfolk

ss. 013-54-9147

On 02/09/04, before me, Patricia F. Hamel, personally appeared Gene DiPoto personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity(ies), and that by his signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

[SEAL]



Notary Signature